

On Thursday, March 26, 2009, the Subcommittee on National Security and Foreign Affairs continued its extensive oversight of U.S. efforts in Afghanistan and Pakistan by conducting a hearing designed to explore what objectives the U.S. should try to achieve in Afghanistan, as well as the resources necessary to achieve them including: the utility, capacity, and optimal number of military forces; the utility, capacity, and optimal number of civilian U.S. employees; various international resource options; the positive and negative effects of increased presence of U.S. personnel on the Afghan people; and the optimal model for security and development assistance. This hearing coincided with the ongoing strategic review being prepared for President Obama.

### Witness List

**Lt. Gen. David W. Barno**, U.S. Army (retired), Director of the Near East South Asia Center for Strategic Studies at the National Defense University and former Commander of the Combined Forces Command-Afghanistan as part of Operation Enduring Freedom from 2003-2005.

**Ambassador James Dobbins**, Director of the Center for International Security and Defense Policy at the RAND Corporation; former representative to the Afghan opposition in the wake of September 11, 2001; and former Special Envoy for Afghanistan.

**Dr. Frederick W. Kagan**, Resident Scholar at the American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research (Dr. Kagan, who holds a B.A. and Ph.D. from Yale University, specializes in defense issues and the American military, and has just returned from an eight-day trip to Afghanistan).

**David Kilcullen, Ph.D.**, Senior Non-Resident Fellow at the Center for a New American Security, Partner at the Crompton Group LLC, and former Special Advisor for Counterinsurgency to Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice.

To view a webcast of the hearing, click on the link below:

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### **Documents and Links**

- [Opening Statement of Subcommittee Chairman John Tierney](#)
- [Testimony of Lt. Gen. David W. Barno](#)
- [Testimony of Ambassador James Dobbins](#)